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SC-01155/59
Copy 9 of 10

12 March 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT : ELINT Requirements for Collection by [redacted] 25X1A STPOLLY

1. In pursuance of your request at the DPD-DD/F staff meeting on 24 February to examine into and report to you on the above subject, I offer the following.

Capabilities for ELINT Collection

25X1A [redacted]

Priority of [redacted] Collection STPOLLY

25X1A

3. The United States Intelligence Board (USIB) has approved its ELINT Committee's (ELCOM) statement of ELINT objectives and general intelligence requirements for ELINT (Tab A). An examination of that paper suggests that at best the ELINT now being collected by [redacted] would STPOLLY rate as Category D on page 4 and, in addition, as Category B under Second Priority Objectives on page 5. Also, Category D on page 6. It is not believed that current operations contribute significantly to the First Priority Objective, B on page 3, which reads:

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[redacted]

The above suggests to the undersigned that missions where ELINT collection is the primary objective and reason for going should be confined at most to

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a sufficient number to maintain a reasonably current Radar Order of Battle (ROB) and air defense posture unless there were a decided worsening in the [redacted] If, however, other reasons for going justify the missions then it would seem ridiculous not to collect ELINT since that is possible simultaneously with carrying out the non-ELINT objectives. However, it may well be that there are ELINT requirements against the Soviet border areas which would rate a higher position in the priorities.

25X1A

Purposes of [redacted] Flights Other Than ELINT Collection

25X1A

[redacted]

25X1C

Procedure on Levying Requirements

25X1A

5. It should be noted that initially [redacted] worked with FEAF in securing requirements. Since the Pacific Theatre reorganization, however, the 5th Air Force has exercised the theatre requirements responsibility for PACAF and may be doing so for CINCPAC (though this we have to check with the Services).

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25X1A

6. If permission were granted and it were tactically feasible to exercise the [redacted] capability with its improved ELINT gear against the [redacted] OSI ELINT requirements certainly would pertain, and indeed such collection would in all probability be higher in relation to the Priority National Intelligence Objectives than the requirements for collection against certain [redacted] targets.

25X1A

25X1A

25X1A

Evaluations of Performance to Date

[redacted]

25X1B

8. The last evaluation of the materials collected by [redacted] (which was prior to recent major improvements in the ELINT collection system) occurred last November when Staff D approached the Air Force, Navy, and NSA. Their evaluations are attached at Tab B. The Air Force and NSA evaluations are the strongest of these. Whereas Air Force interest is greater than that of NSA in the ELINT as such, both organizations attain great benefit from the marriage permitted by the coincidence of ELINT collection with [redacted] reactions to the flight. From these evaluations it is quite clear that the ELINT and COMINT derived by virtue of [redacted] activity is very useful to the 5th Air Force and NSA particularly as regards the [redacted] for which this is the major reliable source.

25X1A

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9. It would appear to be desirable to state clearly whether the need for ELINT collection against the [redacted] by [redacted] is of such importance as to justify ELINT collection alone. This, it is believed, c be best accomplished by DDP conducting a thorough review with the fu and simultaneous participation of responsible officials from the Army, Navy, Air Force, NSA, and CIA OSI. Such a review will bring into fo both the ELINT and the COMINT benefits to be derived and the need for those products, not only in terms of the needs of the 5th Air Force but

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also in terms of US Government's ELINT collection needs in the Far East and some perspective on the total ELINT requirements of US intelligence bearing on the [redacted]

25X1A

10. The suggestion that DDP conduct such a review stems from the fact that other community mechanism, such as ELCOM or a future NSA requirements committee, are not in shape to proceed rapidly enough to meet the [redacted] needs.

25X1A

11. Recommendation: That you concur in the attached letter (TS-155159) to the Services and NSA for the signature of General Cabell.

[redacted]

25X1A
25X1A

JAMES Q. REBER
Chief, Special Requirements Staff
DPD-DD/P

Attachments
1. Tab A-US ELINT Objectives and General Intelligence Rqms
2. Tab B-Evaluations of [redacted] Collection from NSA, Navy, and AF — 25X1A
3. Tab C-TS-155159 dated 23 March

cc: ESO (cy 2) w/o atts
25X1A OSI [redacted] (cy 3) w/o atts
25X1A FI/D/FP/DDP [redacted] (cy 4) w/o atts
25X1A FE/CHI/[redacted]/DDP [redacted] (cy 5) w/o atts
25X1A Ch RQM/RE/M/DDP (cy 6) w/o atts
25X1A Ops DPD-DD/P [redacted] (cy 7) w/o atts
AS/Ops Br/DPD-DD/P [redacted] (cy 8) w/o atts

Ch SRS/DPD-DD/P:JQReber:cw
SRS/DPD-DD/P subj file (cy 9)
SRS/DPD-DD/P chrono (cy 10)

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